

**REMARKS**

**DECLARATION ATTACHED:**

Attached is an expert Declaration of Dr. Jean-Claude Laprie, an independent, unbiased and internationally recognized authority in the reliable-computing field of the present invention. The Declaration addresses principal issues in this case — particularly but not only the obviousness issues.

The attached Declaration is believed to be self explanatory. The Examiner is respectfully asked to consider Dr. Laprie's statements and accord to them the weight appropriate to his expertise and his stature in this field.

**UNNECESSARY DISCUSSION**

**IN MAY 15 AMENDMENT:**

As to some details, the Amendment mailed by the Applicant on May 15 goes beyond the corresponding statements which appear in Dr. Laprie's declaration. In the Amendment those details are

mainly concentrated in the section entitled "SUPPLEMENTAL ANALYSIS . . ." which runs from pages 50 through 58.

All of that discussion is believed to be unnecessary to patentability of the claims in this case (possibly excepting claims 65 and 66). The Applicant included that discussion in an excess of caution, simply trying to state all applicable reasoning.

That "SUPPLEMENTAL ANALYSIS" section, however, is complicated and difficult; portions of it may also be arguable. Since that section is considered superfluous as to patentability, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to disregard that section, with its four numbered subsections.

This invitation is without prejudice to Applicant's right to reassert and/or refine that analysis, or parts of it, in a later paper — in event the Examiner deems the other reasoning in the amendment or declaration unpersuasive as to patentability.

The purpose of this invitation is twofold: (1) to better harmonize the reasoning in the Amendment with that in the Laprie Declaration, particularly in regard to some questions that tend to be semantic in character; and (2) to reduce the Examiner's workload, in view of that which has now been added by submission of the Declaration. The Declaration is believed to place the issues in sharpest focus.

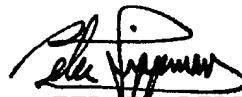
Thus in the interest of cultivating agreement, for the time being the Applicant wishes to stand on the positions articulated in the accompanying Declaration, rather than the more assertive ones in the "SUPPLEMENTAL ANALYSIS" section of the Amendment.

#### Conclusion

In view of the attached Declaration and the foregoing remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and

allowance of all claims now standing in this case. In addition, noting the extremely high cost of continuing prosecution of this application — not only to the Applicant but to the Government as well — it is earnestly requested that, should there appear any obstacle to allowance of the claims herein, the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney to try to resolve the obstacle.

Respectfully submitted,



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